

Washington State Patrol Media Release

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*****For Immediate Release*****

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“Tenino Teen Arrested For Vehicular Assault”

An 18 year old male from Tenino was arrested for Vehicular Assault late last night after crashing his car and seriously injuring his passenger.

The January 13th incident occurred at 10:55 p.m. when the State Patrol received a report of a one car injury collision at 168th and Crowder Road in Thurston County. The driver, 18 year old Chris J. Hernandez of Tenino, was driving a 2002 Ford Ranger Truck and failed to negotiate a corner on Crowder Road, leaving the roadway and rolling.

The passenger in the vehicle, 17 year old Holly N. Petrich of Olympia, was transported to St. Peter Hospital with serious injuries. Investigators at the scene suspected Hernandez to be under the influence of alcohol and after further investigation he was arrested for driving under the influence (DUI).

While being processed for DUI, the investigating trooper was advised that Petrich had a broken collar bone; Hernandez's charge for DUI was upgraded to Vehicular Assault. Hernandez was taken to St. Peter Hospital for a medical release and then booked into the Thurston County Jail on suspicion of Vehicular Assault.

Speed and alcohol were a factor in this preventable collision. The Washington State Patrol investigates many collisions involving under age drinking. Many times the outcome is even more devastating and lives are lost.

The Washington State Patrol has no tolerance for under age drinking. Anyone under the age of 21 found to be drinking and driving will be arrested for minor in possession of alcohol and DUI.

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